

Sisk, Richard

From: Schmittldiel, Paula
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2013 2:06 PM
To: Hestmark, Martin; Stavnes, Sandra; Murray, Bill; Wharton, Steve; Chergo, Jennifer; Sisk, Richard; Fells, Sandy; Works, John
Cc: MacDonald, Frances
Subject: Hot Topics



Topic: VB/I-70 – OU-01 Superfund Site

Discussion:

On Tuesday, April 16th, EPA staff met with the City of Denver elected officials and City staff regarding EPA's proposed plans to implement institutional controls (ICs) for addressing the non-responsive residential property owners in OU-01 at VB/I-70. Where EPA has been denied access to either sample or to cleanup a residential property (after multiple efforts to gain access) EPA is proposing two proposed measures: 1) Annual letters; and 2) a Notice of Environmental Conditions being filed and recorded in the property file at the City/County of Denver.

EPA staff and managers had met with State officials and Doug Linkhart, Director and his staff for the Dept. of Environmental Health on April 5th regarding EPA's proposed plans. Subsequently, DEH briefed Councilwoman Judy Montero and Councilman Albus Brooks on our proposed plans for ICs. Councilwoman Judy Montero was concerned about EPA's proposed plans and had requested a meeting with Doug Linkhart and DEH staff and EPA. Also in attendance at this meeting were representatives for Councilman Brooks and staff member, Jen Clanahan of Representative Diane DeGette's office.

Councilwoman Montero had a number of concerns as to the impact of Notices being filed on the property. She did not want EPA to send letters to property owners without one more outreach effort in an attempt to gain the trust of these property owners. Councilwoman Montero thought that a local NGO like GroundWorks Denver or LiveWell or perhaps a City social services case workers could be approached about contacting these property owners.

EPA explained that we had funding available now and we were uncertain about available funding in the future. EPA also explained that without implementing ICs that we would not be able to de-list the site and that over 4500 property owners had already complied with EPA's request for access.

Agreements:

- EPA agreed to allow both city council offices a limited amount of time (till end of May) for their own outreach efforts to these property owners before sending the last chance letters to property owners.
- Councilwoman Montero agreed to contact GroundWorks Denver about some outreach efforts.
- The City and council offices will identify properties that are either vacant/abandoned or that are "institutional" (banks, etc.) where EPA could proceed with mailing the "last chance" letters.
- EPA will send the draft letters to the council offices for their input before finalizing the letters.
- EPA will look into a small amount of limited funding (\$500-\$1500??) to assist the council offices or a local NGO with this short term outreach effort.

- City Council representatives agreed that EPA would send letters to property owners once the latest outreach effort was concluded.

For more information, please contact either Jennifer Chergo @ 312-6601 or Paula Schmittiel @ 312-6861.

Paula Schmittiel

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